

# Meeting Minutes

Project: Upper Platte River Basin Water Management Plan – Single Planning Group

Subject: Meeting #4

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn Express & Suites – North Platte, NE

Attendees: See Sign-in Sheet

## I. Administration

- a. Announcements and Introductions, including Open meeting act notices
- b. September Meeting Recap - minutes from last meeting not linked to DNR website – to be corrected
- c. Roles and Responsibilities
  - Roles and responsibilities from Public Participation Plan reviewed to provide clarity for the development of second increment; implementation is responsibility of NRDs; manager's will be included in discussion roundtable

## II. Upper Platte Basin-Wide Plan – First Increment Review

- a. Q&A - none
- b. Bridging the First and Second Increment (Roadmap Handout)
  - 46-715: interpretation of 46-715 defines additional consideration to be weighted by the SPG to determine additional progress goals towards a fully appropriated condition during the second increment.
  - Sustain balance between water uses and supplies so that economic viability, social and environmental health, safety, and welfare of the river basin can be achieved and maintained
  - Still need to comply with plan components that were addressed in first increment
  - How was overappropriated status determined? Original definition of OA area was not based on technical evaluation 46-713(4); based on areas where SW and GW moratoriums and a multi-state cooperative agreement were in place on July 16, 2004.
  - Question about the economic viability component – viability for whom? For some, taxes going up but allocation going down. Highlights the need for input from SPG in defining economic viability
  - Question about how do we know where we stand today? Need to monitor progress – currently being done and reported at annual basin meetings.
  - Stakeholder Comment - during first increment, we were in 10 year drought. Lesson is that we didn't have enough storage capacity during drought; looking to food/water for future generations, goals may change. Dams will be silted in. We need to start planning now.
- c. January survey will address 46-715 additional considerations

### III. Review & Refinement of First Increment Goals

A pre-survey was completed in advance of this meeting by 12 individuals. Results of that survey were discussed throughout this section of the meeting; full survey results are included at the end of these minutes.

- a. Goal 1: Incrementally achieve and sustain a fully appropriated condition.
  - 10 of 12 survey respondents said this goal is fine as-is
  - Pre-survey stakeholder comment to strike “incrementally achieve and”—REVISIT striking these words if basin is Fully Appropriated
  - Pre-survey stakeholder comment to estimate # of increments
  - **Vote for “No Modifications”** – 2 yellow cards;

#### Objective 1

- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to delete – this objective is supposed to be met at end of 1<sup>st</sup> increment, so not necessarily needed now. Where does each NRD think they are in achieving FA condition?
  - CPNRD - believe they have met requirement
  - NPNRD – believe they have met requirement
  - SPNRD – believe they have met requirement
  - TBNRD – believe they have met requirement; potential complication with J2 (now off the table, so need to look for alternatives)
  - TPNRD – believe they have met requirement
  - This will be validated/verified through the Robust Review
- Future decisions made based on best available science at the time (which has improved and is continuing to improve)
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to end at “streamflow”, strike remainder
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment that offset needs to be in stream providing actual flow
- **Vote to move forward with objective as-is** – 1 yellow; **revisit with full set of data about FA condition**

#### Objective 2

- 9 of 12 survey responses fine as-is
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to add WWUM.
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment that this is more than one objective. Clarified in action items.
- **Vote to strike reference to COHYST – rest to remain as-is.**

#### Objective 3

- 6 of 12 survey responses fine as-is
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to delete. If FA, then does this apply?
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to delete “continue” or “continue to develop the methodology to”. By statute, needs to be done in 1<sup>st</sup> increment.
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment about develop vs. enhance; difference vs. co-relationship

- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to add application of methodology
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to add “in collaboration with the stakeholders within 1 year”
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment that objective is vague
- **Vote to move forward with no modifications**

#### Objective 4

- 8 of 12 survey respondents fine as-is
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to strike “progress toward” – If FA, then does this apply?
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to include some measure of how far we are going in this increment (i.e. reduce remaining difference by 50% instead of just making progress).
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to analyze vs. analysis, i.e. ongoing
- Address timeline - # of increments: if we aren’t there, how long should it take to get there?
- **Vote to move forward with no modifications – address the timeline with action items**

#### Objective 5

- 8 of 12 survey respondents fine as-is
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to reduce remaining difference by 50%; way it is written appears that funding is the limitation; discussion and comment from NRDs is that funding is not a restriction and other options are not precluded by wording.
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to include regulation? Funding?
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to strike first 4 words
- **Vote to move forward with no modifications**

#### Objective 6

- 9 of 12 survey respondents fine as-is
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to strike “adopt and implement” and change to “Update”
- Pre-survey stakeholder comment to add “in accordance with the Plan”
- **Vote to move forward with modification – “Update and continue to implement IMPs in each Platte River Basin NRD.”**

b. Goal 4: Discuss at January meeting

#### IV. Modeling Overviews

- a. COHYST – Presentation and Q&A by Duane Woodward, CPNRD
- b. WWUM – Presentation and Q&A by Thad Kuntz and Heath Kuntz, Adaptive Resources, Inc.

#### V. Next Steps

- Vote to determine if group should meet if there is no data concerning difference between current and fully appropriated status: Majority voted to meet as scheduled; 6 voted to not meet if data is not available. **January meeting will be held on schedule, regardless of if data is available for difference between current and fully appropriated status.**
- Goal 4: Discuss at January meeting

VI. Topics to Address in 2nd Increment (flip chart topics)

- Drought Conditions
- Revisit order of goals
- Economic & Social Impacts
- Oversight
- Conjunctive Mgmt (ground AND surface)
- Food & Clean water for future generations
- Monitor Progress (score sheet)
- Storage Capacity & Maintenance
- Have we jumped from over to fully?
- Timeline; number of increments

VII. Public Comment

- None

Adjourn at 3:20 pm